Shortage of manpower in clinical research sector

2663. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's clinical research sector is braving an alarming manpower shortage when the industry is making rapid strides;

(b) whether it is also a fact that according to industry estimates, it needs to add 10,000-12,000 trained manpower to keep pace with the growth; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to promote clinical research among the youths in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) There is remarkable growth in clinical research in India in the last two years as India is recognized as center for clinical research by the developed countries due to its strategic advantage of trained manpower, well equipped hospitals, patient population and matured and growing pharmaceutical industry.

(b) The Ministry does not have specific information with respect to number of trained manpower required for clinical research activities. These figures indicating a requirement of 10,000-12,000 trained manpower are quoted by experts of the industry in their various presentations at seminars and workshops. The figures are also quoted by some of the institutions who are undertaking training programmes for clinical research.

(c) The requirement of manpower etc. will be decided by the market forces as the Pharma Industry is largely in the private sector. The role of the Government is limited to regulating clinical trials within the country.

Pesticides in bottled water

†2664. SHRIJAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL:
DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government have taken seriously the presence of insecticides in the drinking water bottled under various brands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) propose to modify the norms of examination in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir the limits for pesticide residues have been prescribed for packaged drinking water *vide* item A. 33 Appendix-B of Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules 1955, *vide* Notification GSR No. 554 (E) dated 18.7.2003, which are as under:

(i)	Pesticide Residues	Not more than 0.0001 mg/litre
(ii)	Total Pesticides Residues	Not more than 0.0005 mg./litre.

(The analysis shall be conducted by using internationally established test methods meeting the residue limits specified herein).

The PFA Act 1954 and Rules made there under are implemented by State/UT Governments who take samples of food articles including packaged drinking water. In case of any violation of this Act/Rules, the penal action is taken under PFA Act 1954.

The standards became effective from 1.1.2004.

(c) and (d) As per information made available by BIS there is no such proposal under consideration.

Rural posting of doctors

†2665. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to make it mandatory for all the doctors to serve in villages for at least one year under the National Health Policy;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.